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AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

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## TO OUR PATRONS.

*In introducing the fourth volume of the Metropolitan to its numerous patrons, we feel that we can refer with no small degree of pleasure to the general Table of Contents, where the reader will find a variety of subjects worthy the attention of every intelligent Catholic, and creditable alike to the authors and to Catholic literature.*

*For our editorial labors we claim little else than a careful and scrupulous selection of subjects, in order to render the work not only a periodical devoted to the interests of religion, but also a periodical of general literature, governed and controlled by Catholic tone and sentiment. Under the Review of Current Literature, we have given a candid expression of our opinion on the merits of the current literature of the day. The Record of Events, though little more than an imperfect chronological table, will show itself more useful as time shall more or less erase the events from the memory.*

*Further than this, we claim nothing for ourselves. Of our contributors, many of whom occupy distinguished positions in the Church and in the secular walks of life, it is unnecessary to speak; their praise will be found inscribed on the many able articles which fill the pages of the present volume. For the valuable services they have rendered to the work, we tender the warmest expression of our gratitude.*

*Without disparagement to any, we deem it but just to pay a passing tribute to the Biographical Sketches of Eminent American Catholics, from the pen of one of the most promising Catholic writers in the country. These sketches, somewhat extended as they may be hereafter, rank with the best of our national literature, and will rescue many valuable names, perhaps from obscurity, if not from oblivion.*

*It is a subject of congratulation to us, and must be equally so to our patrons, to know that the course of the Metropolitan has merited the approbation of those whose judgment is worthy of our highest esteem, and that the work is not only extending its circulation, but also its reputation and influence.*

*Of the future we will not speak. We have in our mind a grand programme for the coming volume, but we prefer not to disclose its outlines. We can only assure our readers, that if they have heretofore found the work worthy of their confidence and support, the future of the Metropolitan shall be such as to deserve a continuation of their liberal patronage.*

EDITORS.



## CONTENTS OF VOLUME IV.

*Articles marked thus \* are illustrated.*

	PAGE
Ancient Music, . . . . .	87
Angel and Devil—A Reverie, . . . . .	610
Attache at Madrid, . . . . .	165
Catholic Biography, . . . . .	19
Christmas. From the French of Viscount Walsh, . . . . .	646
Catholic Church, the only True Church, . . . . .	360
Cardinal Wiseman, Writings of, . . . . .	212
Danger of Mixed Marriages, . . . . .	363
Education, Schools, Colleges, Universities and the Jesuits, . . . . .	532

**EDITORS' TABLE:** 60, 121, 187, 249, 314, 381, 445, 508, 575, 634, 705, 755

### *Principal Items:*

Editorial Dialogue, . . . . .	60
Letter from the Fathers of the Eighth Council of Baltimore to the Councils of the Work of the Propagation of the Faith, . . . .	66
The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Mount Hope Institution, . . . .	126
Lecture of the Most Rev. Archbishop Hughes, . . . . .	128
The Buffalo Convention, . . . . .	251
The withdrawal of the Maynooth Grant, . . . . .	319
A Gold Medal and Letter from His Holiness Pope Pius IX, . . . .	384
Life and Times of O'Connell, . . . . .	447
Annals of the Propagation of the Faith . . . . .	448
College Commencements, . . . . .	449
Maud and other Poems, . . . . .	509
The Dies Iræ—its history, . . . . .	634
Poets and Poetry, . . . . .	705
A Free Library, . . . . .	706
Presidential Election, . . . . .	707
*First Mass in America, . . . . .	49
*Faith—Translated from the Works of Chateaubriand, . . . . .	163
Faith, Principles of, . . . . .	290
French in Rome, . . . . .	348
Food and Medicine, or the Means of preserving Health, . . . . .	551
Government, Pontifical, . . . . .	594, 673
Genius of Christianity, Chateaubriand's, . . . . .	594
*Hope and Charity, . . . . .	230

	PAGE
INTELLIGENCE, . . .	70, 133, 198, 262, 327, 391, 455, 518, 582, 744, 711, 759

*Principal Items:*

Religious Receptions, 70, 71, 134, 198, 262, 264, 327, 390, 519, 583,	584, 644, 645, 765
Ordinations, . . .	70, 134, 198, 455, 519, 644, 645, 647, 711, 766
Church Dedications, 70, 133, 389, 390, 391, 455, 456, 518, 519, 520.	583, 584, 646, 647, 711, 765
Confirmation, 134, 198, 262, 263, 327, 328, 390, 391, 455, 519, 584,	645, 646, 648, 765, 766
Burning of St. Mary's College, . . . . .	70
Frightful Effects of Fanaticism, . . . . .	72
The First Provincial Council of New Orleans, . . . . .	134
Our Legislature and Convent Petition, . . . . .	135
Petition to repeal the Law exempting churches and literary institu-	tions from taxation, . . . . .
	136
Report of the Committee on Convents and Nunneries, . . . . .	199
St. Vincent's Infant Asylum, . . . . .	262
Presidential Nominations, . . . . .	392
Dismissal of the British Minister and Consuls, . . . . .	392
Appaling Rail Road Accident, . . . . .	455
Consecration of St. Ignatius' Church, . . . . .	518
Catholic Population of Baltimore, . . . . .	588
St. Charles' College, . . . . .	645
Redemptorist Mission at Washington, . . . . .	711
Intelligence, Literary, . . . . .	72, 379, 633
Introduction, . . . . .	8
Is Mr. Prescott an Historian? . . . . .	81
Instruments of Christ's Passion and Death, . . . . .	103
Influence of words on thought and on civilization, . . . . .	467
Legend of Hugo, Marquis of Tuscany, . . . . .	33
Longfellow's Hiawatha, . . . . .	148
Love of our native country, . . . . .	423
MISCELLANEA, . . . . .	51, 114, 178, 241, 305, 371, 436, 499, 565, 625, 697, 748
Memoir of Father Andrew White, . . . . .	73
“ Governor Leonard Calvert, . . . . .	137
“ Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin, . . . . .	201
“ Archbishop Carroll, . . . . .	265
* “ Charles Carroll of Carrollton, . . . . .	329
* “ Commodore John Barry, U. S. N. . . . .	393
* “ Cardinal De Cheverus, . . . . .	457
* “ Bishop Flaget, . . . . .	521
* “ Judge Gaston, . . . . .	596, 681
Milan Cathedral, . . . . .	159
Mary Lee, or the Yankee in Ireland, 43, 106, 169, 236, 300, 366, 429, 493, 556,	688, 734
Napoleon's Visit to the Hotel des Invalides, . . . . .	414
Obituary, . . . . .	71, 135, 199, 264, 328, 391, 520, 584, 648, 712, 767

# Contents.

vii

	PAGE
Our Convents—The Ursulines, . . . . .	24, 87, 156
“ “ The Sisters of Providence of the Holy Childhood of Jesus, . . . . .	345
“ “ The Sisters of Our Lady of Charity—Sisters of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, . . . . .	484
“ “ The Sisters of St. Dominic, . . . . .	535
“ “ The Sisters of Loretto, . . . . .	608
“ “ The Sisters of Mercy, . . . . .	724
Our Colleges—Georgetown College, . . . . .	286
“ “ St. Mary's, Baltimore; Loyola College; Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, . . . . .	408
Paradise Lost—from the Works of Chateaubriand, . . . . .	341
Politico-Religious Aspects of the Times, . . . . .	713
Progress and Prospects of Faith in the United States, . . . . .	144
Rise and Wane of Freedom, . . . . .	10

RECORD OF EVENTS: 67, 128, 194, 254, 321, 385, 450, 513, 578, 638, 708, 759

## Principal Items—Foreign Affairs:

Prosperity of the Church in France, . . . . .	68
Trial of Father Pitcherine, . . . . .	68
Col. Walker and the Government of Nicaragua, . . . . .	133
The Column of the Immaculate Conception—Rome, . . . . .	194
The Clerks of St. Vincent, . . . . .	195
Death of Sister Rosalie, . . . . .	195
“ of the Duke of Norfolk, . . . . .	196
Birth of the Imperial Prince—France, . . . . .	255
The Congress of Paris, . . . . .	256
The Angel Gabriel and Negro Riots in Demerara, . . . . .	261
Catholicity in Chili, . . . . .	262
Administering the Parochial Communion—Spain, . . . . .	322
Articles of the Treaty of Peace, . . . . .	323
Inundation of the Rhone, . . . . .	451
Orange Outrage in Ireland, . . . . .	452
A remarkable cure, . . . . .	453
Religion in Africa, . . . . .	454
Reply of the King of Naples to Lord Palmerston, . . . . .	578
Dowager Queen of Oude lands in England, . . . . .	580
Anti-Catholic feeling in Scotland, . . . . .	581
Change of Government in Spain, . . . . .	639
Cardinal Wolsey's Hall, . . . . .	640
Coronation of the Emperor of Russia, . . . . .	642

REVIEW OF CURRENT LITERATURE, . . 55, 118, 182, 245, 310, 376, 441, 505,  
568, 630, 701, 752

Reflections and Suggestions in regard to what is called the Catholic Press, by the Most Rev. Archbishop of New York, . . . . .	649
*Scenes in the Life of Our Lord, . . . . .	37, 98, 160, 230, 293, 353, 418, 487
*Scenes in the Lives of the Apostles—St. Paul, . . . . .	546, 603, 668, 729
*St. Augustine, Fla.—its present and its past, . . . . .	662
Sydney Smith, . . . . .	476

	PAGE
The Holy Family—Murillo, . . . . .	42
The Irish in America, . . . . .	720
The Southern Literary Messenger, . . . . .	217
The Press, by J. Balmes, . . . . .	229, 282
The Plaintiff that would have justice, . . . . .	296
Thoughts upon Insanity, Dreams, &c. . . . .	536
Triumph of Principle, . . . . .	539, 610
Writings of Lady Georgiana Fullerton, . . . . .	403

## POETRY.

The Funeral Knell, . . . . .	62
The Old Bachelor's Valentine, . . . . .	64
The Child at Prayer, . . . . .	102
Ode to St. Patrick's Day, . . . . .	121
Don't murmur at your Lot, . . . . .	123
The Stream in the Desert, . . . . .	124
The Rev. Father Lewis—his Journey from Patapsco to Annapolis, . . . . .	188
Marquette, . . . . .	192
Sursum Corda, . . . . .	229
Forgive and Forget, . . . . .	249
The Forest Tower, . . . . .	250
Confession, . . . . .	251
The Blind Man by the way side, . . . . .	314
A Household Memory, . . . . .	317
A Homestead, . . . . .	382
Lines suggested on witnessing the ceremony of Confirmation, . . . . .	382
The Prudent Man, . . . . .	383
The Fate of Saul, . . . . .	445
Lines suggested on witnessing the Dedication of a Church, . . . . .	389
Leaves have their time to fall, . . . . .	508
Latin Elegy on the destruction of Mount St. Mary's College, . . . . .	575
Dew, . . . . .	576
Lines to a Bunch of Grapes, . . . . .	577
Death of Carolan, . . . . .	629
Lines to a Young Lady on entering a Convent, . . . . .	636
The Battle of Inkerman, . . . . .	637
My Life is like the Summer Rose—with response, . . . . .	705
Evening Hours, . . . . .	747
To the New Year, . . . . .	757
Past, Present, and Future, . . . . .	757
"Carpe Diem," . . . . .	758